

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 326
By Beavers

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Gina Danese Wheat for
her excellent work as a legislative intern.

WHEREAS, legislative interns are an important part of the legislative process, helping
with many varied tasks including tracking legislation and working on constituent problems; and

WHEREAS, Gina Danese Wheat has distinguished herself as one such individual
through her tireless efforts as a legislative intern for Representative Mae Beavers; her efforts
resulted in numerous benefits for the member she served and the General Assembly as a
whole; and

WHEREAS, the daughter of proud parents Weldon Elmer and Janice Brown Wheat,
Gina was born on July 27, 1975, in Sommerville, Tennessee. Her grandparents are Sam and
Ann Brown of Hampshire and Hugh and Margaret Wheat of DeFuniak, Florida. She has one
older brother, Russell Alan Wheat; and

WHEREAS, Gina is a distinguished 1993 honors graduate of Camden Central High
School, where she was the Field Commander of the school Marching Lions and held offices in
many clubs. While in high school, she competed in several public speaking contests,
representing Tennessee, and won first-place recognition in regional, state and national
competitions; and

WHEREAS, she attended the University of Tennessee at Knoxville for her first year of
college. While there, Gina was active in the Alpha Chi Omega Sorority, the Student Government
Association, and the Vols student volunteer group; and

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WHEREAS, Gina then became a highly regarded student at Middle Tennessee State University, where she excelled both academically and in extracurricular activities; and

WHEREAS, while an undergraduate student at MTSU, she was a member of Lambda Alpha Epsilon (the American Criminal Justice Association), and worked either full- or part-time to help her parents put her through school; and

WHEREAS, Gina had a 3.0 grade point average and made the Dean's List three times; and

WHEREAS, she graduated from Middle Tennessee State University on May 10, 1997, receiving a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science and a minor in Criminal Justice Administration and Spanish; and

WHEREAS, Gina has already started work on her masters at Middle Tennessee State and compiled a 4.0 grade point average; and

WHEREAS, during the 1997 legislative session, she exceeded all standards with regard to the qualities that are expected of a dedicated and competent legislative intern; and

WHEREAS, eager to learn more about the intricacies and idiosyncrasies of Tennessee state government and to aid in her studies, Gina brought many skills to the State Capitol for the 1997 session of the One-Hundredth General Assembly; and

WHEREAS, on June 14, 1997, Gina will marry her high school sweetheart of eight years, John Matthew Cochran, the son of Robert and Melody Cochran of Camden; and

WHEREAS, as an intern and as a collegian, she has been highly praised for the outstanding quality of her work and cheerful williness to work long hours; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE-HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we hereby commend Gina Danese Wheat for her exemplary service as a legislative intern and wish her much success in her future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.